

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 05326 280605Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SSO-00
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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEIDATE 0120

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 5326

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, SN, US, HK

SUBJ: CIVAIR: SINGAPORE RIGHTS THROUGH HONG KONG

REF: A) SINGAPORE 1905, B) STATE 108057

1. SINGAPORE HAS NOT BEEN DENIED HONG KONG RIGHTS ON ITS PLANNED SINGAPORE-HONG KONG-US PASSENGER SERVICE. HONG KONG AIR SERVICES NEGOTIATORS (DEPUTY ECONOMIC SERVICES SECRETARY DAVID WONG AND CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT OFFICER NORMAN LATHAM) HAVE CONFIRMED TO CONGENOFF THAT HMG, HKG AND GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE HAVE HELD INFORMAL TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON SINGAPORE'S HONG KONG LANDING RIGHTS. BUT THEY CLAIMED THAT SERIOUS NEGOTIATION WOULD NOT BEGIN UNTIL JUNE. LATHAM UNDERSTOOD THAT UK TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT NEGOTIATOR GEORGE ROGERS WOULD HOLD INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SINGAPORE AIR LINES (SIA) GENERAL MANAGER LIM DURING WEEK OF MAY 8.

2. AS WONG DESCRIBED CURRENT STATE OF TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS, SIA HAD A "HEFTY IMBALANCE" OF PROFITS OVER BRITISH AIRWAYS AND CATHAY PACIFIC FROM INCOME GENERATED ON BOTH LONDON-SINGAPORE TRUNK ROUTE AND ASIA REGIONAL ROUTES, WITH HIGHER PROPORTION OF PROFITS STEMMING FROM SIA'S REGIONAL OPERATIONS. AS HMG/HKG SEE NEGOTIATING POSITIONS DEVELOPING, BRITISH SIDE WILL SEEK SIA'S YIELDING ON RIGHTS NORTH OF HONG KONG
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IN RETURN FOR HONG KONG RIGHTS ON SIA'S TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE. HMG/HKG SEE LITTLE GAIN TO BRITISH ON ADDITIONAL ROUTINGS VIA SINGAPORE SOUTHWARD, AND ARE BASCIALLY CONTENT WITH CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS ON LONDON-SINGAPORE TRUNK ROUTE. ADDITIONAL RIGHTS FOR CONCORDE WOULD NOT ENTER INTO BRITISH POSITION, ACCORDING TO WONG.

3. AS EMBASSY SINGAPORE, CONGEN WOULD LIKE TO SEE FULL
DETAILS OF PRESS REPORT CITED REFTEL A.
LEVIN

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Message Attributes

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